United Nations A/RES/72/309

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 September 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 13

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.68 and A/72/L.68/Add.1)*]

72/309. Consolidating gains and accelerating efforts to control and eliminate malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa, by 2030

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] including the resolve of Member States to eliminate malaria by 2030, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[2]

Recalling that the period 2001–2010 was proclaimed by the General Assembly as the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa,[3] and that combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases is included in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling also its resolution 71/325 of 11 September 2017 and all previous resolutions concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Recalling further World Health Assembly resolutions 60.18 of 23 May 2007 and 64.17 of 24 May 2011, urging a broad range of national and international actions to scale up malaria control programmes,[4] resolution 61.18 of 24 May 2008 on monitoring the achievement of health-related Millennium Development Goals[5] and resolution 68.2 of 22 May 2015 on the global technical strategy and targets for malaria 2016–2030,[6]

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[1] Resolution 70/1.
[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[3] See resolution 55/284.
[4] See World Health Organization, documents WHASS1/2006-WHA60/2007/REC/1 and WHA64/2011/REC/1.
[5] See World Health Organization, document WHA61/2008/REC/1.
[6] See World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1.

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Welcoming the adoption of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance,[7] and in this regard noting the impact of antimicrobial resistance,

Recalling the commitment made by African leaders to end the epidemic of malaria by ensuring universal and equitable access to quality health care and by improving health systems and health financing, contained in the African Common Position on the post-2015 development agenda,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of declarations and decisions on health issues, in particular those related to malaria, adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the African Union, including the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, containing the pledge to allocate at least 15 per cent of national budgets to the health sector, the Abuja call for accelerated action towards universal access to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services in Africa, issued by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its special summit on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 2 to 4 May 2006, the decision of the Assembly of the African Union at its fifteenth ordinary session, held in Kampala from 25 to 27 July 2010, to extend the Abuja call to 2015 to coincide with the Millennium Development Goals, and the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013,

Recognizing the leadership provided by the African Leaders Malaria Alliance and the continued commitment to help to achieve the 2015 targets and eliminate malaria by 2030, and encouraging the members of the Alliance to continue to provide political leadership at the highest level in the fight against malaria in Africa,

Welcoming the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its thirty-first ordinary session, held in Nouakchott on 1 and 2 July 2018, to endorse the "Zero Malaria Starts with Me" campaign, which is a continent-wide public outreach campaign modelled after the successful Senegalese campaign to engage every person across every sector in every country in malaria control and elimination,

Taking note of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in London on 19 and 20 April 2018, at which member countries committed to halve malaria in the Commonwealth countries by 2023, including the pledge by stakeholders to raise 4 billion United States dollars in new commitments to malaria control and elimination,

Welcoming the leadership and commitment of the Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance to eliminate malaria in the Asia-Pacific region by 2030, and encouraging the members of the Alliance to continue to provide political leadership at the highest level in the fight against malaria in the region,

Welcoming also the launch in 2017 of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention to establish early warning and response surveillance systems, respond to emergencies, build capacity and provide technical expertise to address health emergencies in a timely and effective manner,

Taking note of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030 of the World Health Organization, adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2015,[6]

[7] Resolution 71/3.

and the Action and Investment to Defeat Malaria 2016–2030 plan of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, launched at the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015, which together provide the framework for achieving a reduction in global malaria incidence and mortality rates by at least 90 per cent by 2030, in line with the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note also of the World Health Organization framework for action for an emergency response to artemisinin resistance in the Greater Mekong subregion of South-East Asia, launched in April 2013,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Alma-Ata, adopted at the International Conference on Primary Health Care, held in Alma-Ata from 6 to 12 September 1978, and its central role in launching the vision of the World Health Organization on health for all,

Recognizing the linkages among efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000, as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal[8] and the targets of the Millennium Development Goals by 2010 and 2015, respectively, and welcoming in this regard the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Acknowledging the remarkable progress seen in global malaria control between 2000 and 2015, during which period mortality decreased in South-East Asia by 44 per cent, in Africa by 37 per cent and in the Americas by 27 per cent, but noting with concern the trend of stalling mortality rates in some countries and that the global malaria community needs to increase its focus on supporting countries where malaria elimination will be hardest,

Recognizing that continued scale-up of integrated community case management of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea in children under 5 years of age in the highest burden countries, and a strengthening of integrated delivery systems for malaria prevention tools, would be a cost-effective solution to help in bridging systems gaps until health systems are further strengthened,[9] while also helping to reach populations at highest risk of malaria,

Recalling that the target for malaria reduction under Millennium Development Goal 6 had been achieved, with the incidence rate decreasing by 18 per cent globally, from 76 to 63 cases per 1,000 population at risk, between 2010 and 2016,

Recognizing the important gains in reversing the malaria burden in Africa, including a 42 per cent decline in malaria case incidence and a 66 per cent decline in malaria death rates between 2000 and 2015,[10]

Acknowledging the progress made in parts of Africa in reversing the high burden of malaria through political engagement and sustainable national malaria control programmes, as well as the success achieved in respect of the 2015 goals concerning malaria control set by the World Health Assembly, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa,[8]

Acknowledging also the progress made in Latin America in reducing the incidence of malaria, with 15 out of 21 countries reducing the incidence by 75 per cent by 2015, and in significantly decreasing the number of malaria deaths by 79 per cent since 2000, owing to the commitment of countries to improving access to medicines and health services and to sustained efforts in prevention programmes,

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[8] See A/55/240/Add.1, annex.

[9] See A/71/881, para. 39.

[10] See World Health Organization, *World Malaria Report 2016*.

Recognizing that, despite the fact that increased global and national investments in malaria control have yielded significant results in decreasing the burden of malaria in many countries, and that some countries are moving towards the elimination of malaria, many countries continue to have unacceptably high burdens of malaria and, in order to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, must rapidly increase malaria prevention and control efforts, which rely heavily on medicines and insecticides whose utility is continuously threatened by the development of resistance to antimalarial agents, as well as resistance of mosquitoes to insecticides and their shift to outdoor biting and resting,

Aware that recent successes in prevention and control are fragile and can be maintained only with sufficient and sustained national and international investment to fund global malaria control efforts fully,

Regretting the high number of people still without access to medicines, and underscoring that improving access to medicines could save millions of lives every year,

Recognizing the serious challenges relating to substandard and falsified medical products, poor malaria diagnostics and poor quality of vector control products,

Expressing concern about the continued morbidity, mortality and debility attributed to malaria, and recalling that more efforts are needed as countries implement the Sustainable Development Goals and focus on targets set out in the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030 and the Action and Investment to Defeat Malaria 2016–2030 plan to reduce malaria mortality rates by 90 per cent by 2030,

Aware that a concerted and coordinated global effort will be needed to substantially reduce malaria transmission, morbidity and mortality by 2030 and achieve the targets set in the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030,

Recognizing that progress can be accelerated through a multi-pronged response by expanding currently available life-saving interventions, making malaria a higher political priority and considering malaria control as an integrated part of the health system, increasing accountability, strengthening regional and cross-border collaboration, and ensuring that the development and use of new tools and approaches are maximized,

Gravely concerned about the health burden of malaria worldwide, with 216 million cases and 445,000 deaths reported in 2016 alone,[11] in particular in sub-Saharan Africa, where an estimated 91 per cent of the deaths occur, affecting mostly young children,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening health systems to effectively sustain malaria control and elimination efforts and enable appropriate responses to other health issues and emergencies, including investment in entomology and vector control for human resources and infrastructures,

Recognizing the critical need to strengthen malaria surveillance and data quality in all regions where malaria is endemic in order to accurately measure progress, combat resurgence and target resources, particularly in the face of growing resistance to treatment and preventive measures, and recognizing also that additional financing is needed to strengthen national and regional surveillance systems and to support the sharing and analysis of best practices to address urgent programmatic challenges, improve monitoring and evaluation, and conduct regular financial planning and gap analyses,

Acknowledging that the expansion of malaria interventions can be used as an entry point for strengthening health systems more broadly, including maternal and

[11] See World Health Organization, *World Malaria Report 2017*.

child health services and laboratory services, and for building stronger health information and disease surveillance systems, which will further support the effective case management of malaria,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank and other partners to fight malaria over the years,

Taking note that the Global Fund is a primary multilateral funder for malaria control and elimination and that continued progress on malaria elimination will rely on, among other things, the successful replenishment of the Global Fund, noting in this regard that the replenishment conference will be held in France in 2019,

Taking note also that existing bilateral donors have made a significant contribution to the progress on malaria control and elimination, and recognizing the need for other donor countries to increase their investments, including official development assistance, in anti-malaria efforts,

Recognizing the commitment of countries in which malaria is endemic to fight the disease, and recognizing also the need for those countries to further increase the domestic resources they make available to combat the disease,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the World Health Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General, [12] and calls for support for the implementation of the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Calls for* increased support for the implementation of international commitments and goals pertaining to the fight against malaria, including Goal 3, target 3.3, of the Sustainable Development Goals,[1] as well as the related targets outlined in the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030 of the World Health Organization;[6]

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS and Tuberculosis and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030, adopted by the African Union at its twenty-seventh summit, held in Kigali from 10 to 18 July 2016;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-ninth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 3 and 4 July 2017, in which it endorsed the 2 million community health workers initiative and requested the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization and other partners, such as the Group of 20, to support and facilitate its implementation;

5. *Encourages* malaria-endemic countries to increase the domestic resources they make available to combat the disease and to review and strengthen national strategic plans in line with technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and embed those firmly in national health sector and development plans;

6. *Also encourages* malaria-endemic countries to adopt a multisectoral approach to malaria control, taking a whole-of-government approach to fully address its social, environmental and economic determinants and building on synergies with other development priorities, including progressively achieving universal health coverage;

7. *Further encourages* malaria-endemic countries to scale up coverage of malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment, leverage existing channels for integrated service delivery where possible and strengthen systems to respond to the needs of local communities;

[12] A/72/822.

8. *Calls upon* Member States, with the support of development partners, to provide universal access to existing life-saving tools for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of malaria, in particular to the package of core interventions recommended by the World Health Organization,[13] and to ensure equity in access to health services for all people at risk of contracting malaria, especially for the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations, including by strengthening cross-collaboration;[14]

9. *Encourages* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to continue to observe World Malaria Day on 25 April, in order to raise public awareness of and knowledge about the prevention, control and treatment of malaria as well as the importance of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, and stresses the importance of engaging local communities in this regard;

10. *Acknowledges* the urgent need to optimize existing health financing in general, including support for malaria control through the use of surveillance to increase programmatic impact and efficiency, while also recognizing that funding should increase substantially if the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030 milestone for 2020 of 6.4 billion United States dollars per year is to be achieved;

11. *Also acknowledges* the commitments of financial support provided through multilateral and bilateral channels, and recognizes the need for a substantial increase in financial support to meet the targets of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030, from an annual investment of 2.5 billion dollars in 2014 to 8.7 billion dollars by 2030;[6]

12. *Welcomes* the commitments of financial support, while recognizing the need for additional funding to achieve malaria elimination targets, for malaria interventions and for research and development of preventive, diagnostic and control tools from the international community, through funding from multilateral and bilateral sources and from the private sector, as well as by making predictable financing available through appropriate and effective aid modalities and in-country health financing mechanisms aligned with national priorities, which are key to strengthening health systems, including malaria surveillance, and promoting universal and equitable access to high-quality malaria prevention, diagnostic and treatment services, and noting in this regard that a high level of external assistance per person at risk of contracting malaria is associated with a decrease in the incidence of the disease;

13. *Urges* the international community, United Nations agencies and private organizations and foundations to support the implementation of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030, including through support for the complementary Action and Investment to Defeat Malaria 2016–2030 plan and for programmes and activities at the country level in order to achieve internationally agreed targets on malaria;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and partner organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

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[13] The package of core interventions, including quality-assured vector control, chemoprevention and diagnostic testing and treatment, can dramatically reduce morbidity and mortality (see para. 36 of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030).

[14] The call in the Global Malaria Programme of the World Health Organization for universal access to prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and for equity in access to services, are also key pillars of its Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030.

15. *Urges* the international community to work in a spirit of cooperation towards effective, increased, harmonized, predictable and sustained bilateral and multilateral assistance and research to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to implement sound national plans, in particular health plans and sanitation plans, including malaria control and elimination strategies which may include evidence-based, cost-effective and context-appropriate environmental management solutions, and integrated management of childhood illnesses, in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to strengthening health system development approaches at the district level;

16. *Appeals* to the malaria partners to resolve the financial, supply chain and delivery bottlenecks that are responsible for stock-outs of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, insecticides for indoor and outdoor residual spraying, rapid diagnostic tests and artemisinin-based combination therapies at the national level, whenever they occur, including through the strengthening of malaria programme management at the country level;

17. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of additional and predictable resources for development by voluntary innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States, and in this regard notes the contributions of the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization, the advance market commitments for vaccines and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and expresses support for the work of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development and its special task force on innovative financing for health;

18. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to work towards financial sustainability, to increase national resources allocated to malaria control and to create favourable conditions for working with the private sector in order to improve access to good-quality malaria services, as well as to build on synergies with other development priorities, including the strengthening of health systems and engagement with development partners on implementing an effective vector control response,[15] as a contribution to the achievement of universal health coverage;

19. *Urges* Member States to assess and respond to the needs for integrated human resources at all levels of the health system in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, to take action, as appropriate, to effectively govern the recruitment, training and retention of skilled health personnel, and to give particular focus to the availability of skilled personnel at all levels to meet technical and operational needs as increased funding for malaria control programmes becomes available;

20. *Stresses* the importance of improved community-based systems to control malaria, bearing in mind that families are often the starting point for effective health care for a child with a fever, and encourages malaria-endemic countries to extend the reach of public health services by training and deploying community health workers, particularly in rural and remote areas, and to expand integrated community case management of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea, with a focus on children under 5 years of age;[6]

21. *Affirms* that close collaboration with community leaders and implementing partners, including non-governmental organizations, health workers and volunteers, is an essential factor for success in combating malaria, and calls upon Member States to introduce integrated, people-centred community services, in coordination with health-care providers in the public and private sectors, and to continue efforts to

[15] See A/72/822, para. 44.

collaborate with non-governmental partners, health workers and volunteers in implementing community-based approaches to reach populations in remote and hard-to-reach areas;[6]

22. *Calls upon* Member States to promote access to medicines, and emphasizes that access to affordable and quality medicines and medical care in the event of sickness, as well as in the prevention, treatment and control of diseases, is central to the realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

23. *Urges* the international community, inter alia, to support the work of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to enable it to meet its financial needs and, through country-led initiatives with adequate international support, to intensify access to affordable, safe and effective antimalarial treatments, including artemisinin-based combination therapies, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants, adequate diagnostic facilities, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, including, where appropriate, through the free distribution of such nets and, where appropriate, to insecticides for indoor residual spraying for malaria control, taking into account relevant international rules, including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants[16] standards and guidelines;

24. *Urges* relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to enhance the assistance efforts of national Governments to provide universal access to malaria control interventions to address all at-risk populations, in particular young children and pregnant women, in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, as rapidly as possible, with due regard to ensuring the proper use of those interventions, including long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, and sustainability through full community participation and implementation through the health system;

25. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, with the support of the international community, to establish and/or strengthen national policies, operational plans and research, with a view to scaling up efforts to achieve internationally agreed malaria targets, in accordance with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization;

26. *Commends* those African countries that have implemented the recommendations of the Abuja Summit in 2000 to reduce or waive taxes and tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control,[8] and encourages other countries to do the same;

27. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and their partners to continue to provide the technical support necessary to build and enhance the capacity of Member States to implement the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030, together with the Action and Investment to Defeat Malaria 2016–2030 plan, to meet the internationally agreed goals;

28. *Expresses deep concern* about emerging drug and insecticide resistance in several regions of the world, calls upon Member States, with support from the World Health Organization and other partners, to implement the Global Plan for Artemisinin Resistance Containment and the Global Plan for Insecticide Resistance Management in Malaria Vectors and to strengthen and implement surveillance systems for monitoring and assessing changing patterns of drug and insecticide resistance, calls upon the World Health Organization to support Member States in the development of their national insecticide resistance management strategies and to coordinate support

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2256, No. 40214.

at the international level for countries to ensure that drug efficacy and insecticide resistance testing is fully operational in order to enhance the use of artemisinin-based combination therapies and insecticides, and stresses that the data gathered should be utilized to inform local decisions and for further research and development of safe and effective therapies and new vector control tools;

29. *Urges* all Member States to prohibit the marketing and use of oral artemisinin-based monotherapies and to replace them with oral artemisinin-based combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, and to develop the financial, legislative and regulatory mechanisms necessary to introduce artemisinin combination therapies at affordable prices in both public and private facilities;

30. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of safe, affordable and cost-effective vaccines, new medicines and diagnostics to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including into safe, effective and high-quality therapies, using rigorous standards, including by providing support to the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases,[17] through effective global partnerships, such as, inter alia, the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development, and through effective and timely support for the pre-qualification of new antimalarials and their combinations;

31. *Also recognizes* the importance of innovation in addressing the challenges to eliminating malaria, including the role of the World Intellectual Property Organization, in particular its Re: Search platform;

32. *Calls upon* the international community, including through existing partnerships, to increase investment in and efforts towards research to optimize current tools, develop and validate new, safe and affordable malaria-related medicines, products and technologies, such as vaccines, rapid diagnostic tests, insecticides and their delivery modes, to prevent and treat malaria, especially for at-risk children and pregnant women, and test opportunities for integration in order to enhance effectiveness and delay the onset of resistance;

33. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to assure favourable conditions for research institutions, including the allocation of adequate resources and the development of national policies and legal frameworks, where appropriate, with a view to, inter alia, informing policy formulation and strategic interventions on malaria;

34. *Reaffirms* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, and the latest amendment to article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement, which came into effect on 23 January 2017, and which provides flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all and to encourage the provision of assistance to developing countries in this regard, and calls for the broad and timely acceptance of the amendment to article 31 of the Agreement, as proposed by the General Council of the World Trade Organization in its decision of 6 December 2005, while recognizing that the protection of intellectual property is important for the development of new medicine;

[17] A joint programme of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

35. *Recognizes* the importance in the struggle against malaria of the World Health Organization Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, adopted by the World Health Assembly on 24 May 2008;[5]

36. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries, development partners and the international community to support the timely replacement of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets in accordance with the recommendations of the World Health Organization on the service lives of the nets, in order to prevent the risk of malaria resurgence and a reversal of the gains made to date and to make further progress in standardizing nets to reduce the cost of their production;

37. *Takes note* of the essential contribution of the scientific community and the private sector, and stresses that new products such as improved diagnostic tools, more effective medicines and vaccines, new insecticides and more durable insecticide-treated bednets are all fundamental to ensuring sustained progress in efforts to combat the disease;[18]

38. *Calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to affordable, effective and safe products and treatments, such as vector control measures, including indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, including through the free distribution of such nets, adequate diagnostic facilities, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants, and artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of falciparum malaria infection in endemic countries, particularly in Africa, including through additional funds and innovative mechanisms, inter alia, for the financing and scaling up of artemisinin production and procurement, as appropriate, to meet the increased need;

39. *Recognizes* the impact of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, and welcomes the increased level of public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, including the financial and in-kind contributions of private sector partners and companies operating in Africa, as well as the increased engagement of non-governmental service providers;

40. *Encourages* the producers of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and insecticides to accelerate technology transfer to developing countries, and invites the World Bank and regional development funds to consider supporting malaria-endemic countries in establishing factories to scale up production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and insecticides, where appropriate;

41. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community, especially malaria-endemic countries, in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations of the World Health Organization and the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, including those related to DDT, to become fully knowledgeable about the technical policies and strategies of the World Health Organization and the provisions of the Stockholm Convention, including for indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and case management, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants, monitoring of in vivo resistance studies to artemisinin-based combination therapies and monitoring and managing insecticide resistance and outdoor malaria transmission, as well as to increase capacity for the registration and uptake of new vector control tools, the safe, effective and judicious use of indoor residual spraying and other forms of vector control, including quality control measures, in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines;

[18] See A/72/822, para. 46.

42. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and donor agencies to provide support to those countries that still use DDT for indoor residual spraying so as to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines, and to provide all possible support to malaria-endemic countries to manage the intervention effectively and prevent all contamination, in particular, of agricultural products with DDT and other insecticides used for indoor residual spraying;

43. *Recognizes* the importance of a multisectoral strategy to advance global control efforts, invites malaria-endemic countries to consider adopting and implementing the Multisectoral Action Framework for Malaria, developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and the United Nations Development Programme, and encourages regional and intersectoral collaboration, both public and private, at all levels, especially in education, health, agriculture, economic development and the environment, to advance malaria control objectives;

44. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen malaria surveillance and data quality in all endemic regions, which is important to the follow-up and review of the progress in implementing target 3.3 pertaining to Sustainable Development Goal 3 and a key pillar of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030, to enable Member States to direct financial resources to populations most in need and to respond effectively to disease outbreaks, particularly in the face of growing resistance to treatment and preventive measures;

45. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to strengthen mechanisms for country-based coordination of technical assistance to achieve alignment of the best approaches to implement World Health Organization technical guidance and to mobilize support for the sharing and analysis of best practices to address urgent programmatic challenges, to improve monitoring and evaluation and to conduct regular financial planning and gap analysis;

46. *Encourages* sharing, across regions, of knowledge, experience and lessons learned with regard to the control and elimination of malaria, particularly between the Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America regions;

47. *Calls upon* the international community to support the strengthening of health systems, national pesticide and/or pharmaceutical policies and national drug and pesticide regulatory authorities, to monitor and fight against the trade in substandard and falsified medical products, such as substandard antimalarial medicines, pesticides and/or nets, and prevent their distribution and use, and to support coordinated efforts, inter alia, by providing technical assistance for compliance with existing commitments and international regulations on the use of pesticides and to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems and their alignment with national plans and systems so as to better track and report changes in coverage, the need for scaling up recommended interventions and the subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

48. *Encourages* Member States, the international community and all relevant actors, including the private sector, to promote the coordinated implementation and enhance the quality of malaria-related activities, in accordance with national policies and operational plans that are consistent with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and recent efforts and initiatives, including, where appropriate, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, adopted at the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra from 2 to 4 September 2008, [19] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development

[19] A/63/539, annex.

Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;[20]

49. *Recognizes* the need for political commitment and financial support to sustain and expand the achievements in the struggle against malaria and to meet the international malaria targets through prevention and malaria control efforts to end the epidemic, while acknowledging the remarkable progress in combating malaria to date;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

113th plenary meeting
10 September 2018

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[20] Resolution 64/222, annex.

United Nations A/RES/72/310

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 September 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 66 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.57/Rev.1 and A/72/L.57/Rev.1/Add.1)*]

72/310. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and all its subsequent resolutions, including resolution 71/320 of 8 September 2017, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, entitled "Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)", which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the

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strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union of the decision proclaiming "Winning the fight against corruption: a sustainable path to Africa's transformation" as the theme for 2018, and the appointment of the African Union Champion against Corruption,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underscores the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries, including African countries, and recalling also that significant challenges remain in achieving sustainable development in Africa and the importance of fulfilling all commitments to advance action in areas critical to Africa's sustainable development,

Recalling also the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as reaffirmed in the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union,

Recognizing the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities, and recognizing also the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union of the first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) of the African Union Agenda 2063, which outlines key African flagship projects, fast-track programmes, priority areas, specific targets and African strategies and policy measures at all levels to support its implementation,

Noting with appreciation the signing by the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on 27 January 2018 of the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote the integrated and coordinated implementation, monitoring and reporting of both Agendas through joint activities and programmes,

Recognizing the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and the Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-third ordinary session, held in Malabo on 26 and 27 June 2014, and recognizing also the African Union strategy and road map for facilitating the realization of the 2014 Malabo Commitments on Agriculture, launched during the twenty-fourth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, in January 2015,

Recalling the adoption of its resolution 72/207 of 20 December 2017 on the promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recalling the declaration of the high-level meeting of African and international leaders, entitled "Toward African renaissance: renewed partnership for a unified approach to end hunger in Africa by 2025 under the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme",

Recalling also the adoption of General Assembly resolution 71/254 of 23 December 2016 on the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027,

Welcoming the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of resolution 2018/4 of 17 April 2018 on social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling its resolution 70/259 of 1 April 2016, by which it proclaimed 2016–2025 the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition,

Recognizing the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, recognizing the need of Africa's development partners to implement the commitments contained within, and recalling the African Union strategy and road map for facilitating the realization of the 2014 Malabo Commitments on Agriculture,

Recalling its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012, by which it established a United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, and looking forward to the third biennial report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the commitments made towards Africa's development, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session,

Welcoming the high-level events organized by the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa during Africa Week 2017, on the theme "Supporting an integrated, prosperous, people-centred and peaceful Africa: towards the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind also the need for their development efforts to be supported by the international community and an enabling international economic environment, reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[3]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the fifteenth consolidated progress report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Recognizes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[5] and welcomes in this regard the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the Partnership and recognizes the progress made, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

3. *Also recognizes* the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) and acknowledges the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, both of which are

[3] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] A/72/223.

[5] A/57/304, annex.

integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[6] and underscores in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Calls upon* developing countries and countries with economies in transition to continue their efforts to create a domestic environment conducive to encouraging entrepreneurship, promoting the formalization of informal sector activities in Africa and attracting investments by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights, embedded in sound macroeconomic policies and institutions;

5. *Notes* that foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, that it has a critical role in achieving inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, including through the promotion of job creation and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and that it contributes to the active participation of the African economies in the global economy and facilitates regional economic cooperation and integration, and in this regard calls upon, as appropriate, developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct investment through, inter alia, the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services;

6. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including inclusive industrial development, and policies which seek to enhance productive capacities in Africa can generate employment and income for the poor and, therefore, be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizes in this regard the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 70/293 of 25 July 2016 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025);

7. *Calls for* effective measures and targeted investments to overcome difficulties, to support recovery priorities and to strengthen national health systems to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of diseases, inter alia, the Ebola outbreak, particularly in the most affected countries, in line with the obligations of the International Health Regulations (2005)[7] and the outcome of the International Ebola Recovery Conference, held in New York on 10 July 2015, invites development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, in compliance with the International Health Regulations (2005), and to eliminate diseases, and in this context calls upon development partners to support the implementation of the African Health Strategy 2016–2030 and the transition towards universal health coverage in Africa;

8. *Recalls its commitment* to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

9. *Expresses concern* about the increasing challenges posed by climate change, drought, land degradation, desertification, the loss of biodiversity and floods, and their negative consequences for the fight against poverty, famine and hunger, which could pose serious additional challenges to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in Africa;

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[6] Resolution 70/1.

[7] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

10. *Notes with concern* that gross official development assistance to Africa decreased by 1.3 per cent in 2016;

11. *Also notes with concern* Africa's disproportionately low share of the volume of international trade, which stands at approximately 2.65 per cent for 2016, and expresses concern at the increased debt burden of some African countries;

12. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies, and recommits to adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation and transformative actions for the promotion of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment at all levels, to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy and to eliminate gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse and discrimination in all its forms;

13. *Recognizes its commitment* to the full implementation of the political declaration on Africa's development needs, adopted at the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs on 22 September 2008;[8]

I
Actions by African countries and organizations

14. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to involving the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, in the New Partnership implementation process, developing innovative public-private partnerships for financing infrastructure projects[9] and attracting foreign direct investment for development;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts exerted by the African Union and the regional economic communities in the area of economic integration, as well as ongoing efforts by the African Union in the operationalization of the provision contained in all previous General Assembly resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, and stresses the key role of the United Nations system in supporting the African Union in the social, economic and political fields and in the area of peace and security;

16. *Recognizes* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership and Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan in close cooperation with the African Union, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the support necessary to strengthen their capacity;

17. *Acknowledges* the progress made towards ensuring free movement of persons as well as goods and services in Africa, and in this regard notes with

[8] Resolution 63/1.

[9] Such as the project entitled "Optic fibre link between Algeria and Nigeria via Niger" aimed at connecting Algeria and Nigeria through the installation of 4,500 kilometres of terrestrial optic fibre.

appreciation the signing of the agreement launching the African Continental Free Trade Area at the tenth extraordinary summit of the African Union, held in Kigali on 21 March 2018, which aims at doubling intra-African trade by removing non-tariff and tariff barriers on goods and services;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the decision to establish the Single African Air Transport Market, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its thirtieth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 28 and 29 January 2018;

19. *Encourages* African countries to strengthen and expand local and regional infrastructure and to continue to share best practices with a view to strengthening regional and continental integration, and in this regard notes with appreciation the work of the high-level subcommittee of the African Union on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, which seeks to further strengthen the development of infrastructure on the African continent in collaboration with relevant development partners;

20. *Also encourages* African countries to maintain the trend of increasing both foreign and domestic investment in infrastructure development, including through strengthened domestic resource mobilization from the public and private sectors, and improving the efficiency of existing infrastructure investment;

21. *Further encourages* African countries to accelerate the achievement of the objective of food security and nutrition in Africa, welcomes the commitment made by African leaders to allocate at least 10 per cent of public expenditure to agriculture and to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness, in this regard recognizes its support for the commitments contained in the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and for the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, under the strong leadership of African countries, and in this regard notes the important progress made by the 44 African countries and the 4 regional economic communities that have signed compacts under the Programme;

22. *Encourages* African countries to continue their efforts in investing in education, science, technology and innovation to enhance value addition and industrial development;

23. *Takes note* of the declaration on the theme of the year 2016 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held in Kigali on 17 and 18 July 2016, including the determination to protect and promote women's human rights, and expresses its appreciation for the continuing and increasing efforts of African countries in mainstreaming the gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

24. *Welcomes* the noteworthy progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the voluntary adherence of 37 African countries to the Mechanism and the completion of the peer review process in 21 countries, welcomes the progress in implementing the national programmes of action resulting from those reviews, in this regard urges African States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Mechanism process, and encourages further strengthening of the Mechanism process for its efficient performance;

25. *Reiterates its commitment* to further strengthen public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels;

26. *Welcomes* the collaboration between the African Private Sector Forum and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages the further enhancement of this partnership in conjunction with the African Union Commission in support of the development of the African private sector and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in line with the relevant executive decisions of the African Union;

27. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to align the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa[10] with the strategic frameworks of the African Union and the New Partnership for 2014–2017 and Agenda 2063, and invites development partners, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa in achieving its objectives, including through the allocation of necessary funds to support the implementation of its activities;

II
Response of the international community

28. *Reiterates* that we are setting out together on the path towards sustainable development, devoting ourselves collectively to the pursuit of global development and of "win-win" cooperation which can bring huge gains to all countries and all parts of the world;

29. *Urges* the international community to continue to give due attention to Africa's priorities, including the New Partnership, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

30. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to least developed countries, is encouraged by those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards official development assistance targets;

31. *Underlines* the importance of debt crisis prevention and prudent debt management, calls for a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including the challenge of undeclared or hidden debt, and recognizes the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and debt restructuring;

32. *Reiterates* that international trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and can contribute to the promotion of sustainable development for all, in particular through its contribution to boosting job creation, given the high youth unemployment in Africa, and to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

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[10] The clusters adopted by the Regional Coordination Mechanism at its seventeenth session are (a) sustainable and inclusive economic growth, industry, trade and regional integration; (b) infrastructure development; (c) human capital development, health, science, technology and innovation; (d) social development, labour, employment creation, social protection, migration and mobility; (e) women and gender equality and youth empowerment; (f) humanitarian matters and disaster risk management; (g) environment, urbanization and population; and (h) advocacy, information, communications and culture.

33. *Also reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the multilateral trading system and to build their capacity to compete through such initiatives as Aid for Trade and, given the world economic and financial crisis, the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

34. *Looks forward* to the convening of the third Global Infrastructure Forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and in this regard recalls, as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[11] that a greater range of voices should be heard, particularly from developing countries, to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in, inter alia, African countries, and that it will highlight opportunities for investment and cooperation and work to ensure that investments are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable;

35. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners, as well as other initiatives, emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa and the need for their effective implementation, and in this regard recognizes the important role that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can play in supporting Africa's development efforts, particularly the implementation of the New Partnership, while bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for but rather a complement to North-South cooperation;

36. *Acknowledges* the establishment of the Africa Global Partnership Platform as a mechanism for advancing Africa's interests and perspectives into wider global processes;

37. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[12] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, transparency, accountability and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

38. *Invites* all of Africa's development partners, in particular developed countries, to support the efforts of African countries to promote and maintain macroeconomic stability, to help African countries to attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting domestic and foreign investment, for example by encouraging private financial flows and supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, especially those owned by women, to promote investment by their private sectors in Africa, to encourage and facilitate the development and transfer of technology to African countries, on mutually agreed terms, and to assist in strengthening human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership, consistent with its priorities and objectives and with a view to furthering Africa's development at all levels;

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[11] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[12] A/63/539, annex.

39. *Underlines* the importance of South-South cooperation as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit, welcomes the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, encourages developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation and to further improve its development effectiveness in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,[13] and looks forward to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;

40. *Considers* that innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution towards assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis and that such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, and, while highlighting the considerable progress on innovative sources of financing for development achieved to date, stresses the importance of scaling up present initiatives and developing new mechanisms, as appropriate;

41. *Underscores* the importance of support by Africa's partners, in particular developed countries, of efforts by African countries to strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through capacity-building and strengthening of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and enhance asset recovery and return;

42. *Reiterates* the commitment to redouble efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the strengthening of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows;

43. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners to align their efforts in infrastructure investment towards supporting the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, and notes in this regard the convening in Dakar on 14 and 15 June 2014 of the Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure, which adopted the Dakar Agenda for Action to mobilize investment towards infrastructure development projects, and calls upon development partners to support the implementation of the Dakar Agenda;

44. *Urges* continued support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication, hunger and malnutrition, job creation and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

45. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners to align their efforts to implement the commitments contained in the Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa, towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and the implementation of its national and regional investment plans of the Programme for alignment of external funding, and takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;[14]

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[13] Resolution 64/222, annex.

[14] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

46. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuing negative effects of desertification, land degradation and drought on the African continent and underlines the need for short-, medium- and long-term measures, and in this regard calls for the continued effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[15] including its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework;[16]

47. *Recognizes* that Africa is one of the regions that contribute the least to climate change, yet is extremely vulnerable and exposed to the adverse impacts of climate change, and in this regard calls upon the international community, including developed countries, to continue to support Africa to address its adaptation needs through, inter alia, the development, transfer and deployment of technology on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and the provision of adequate and predictable resources, in line with existing commitments, and highlights the need for full implementation of the agreed outcomes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] including the Paris Agreement;[1]

48. *Reiterates* the need to support developing countries in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data;

49. *Stresses* that the prevention, management and resolution of conflict and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes in this regard the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

50. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission in assisting post-conflict countries in Africa, particularly the six African countries for which the Commission has established country-specific configurations;

51. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership and to place greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of the effectiveness of its activities in support of the New Partnership;

52. *Emphasizes* African ownership of the African Peer Review Mechanism process, and invites the international community to support the efforts of African countries, at their request, in implementing their respective national programmes of action arising from the process;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities;

54. *Recalls* the establishment of the United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made relating to Africa's development, and invites Member States and all relevant entities of the United Nations system, including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, in particular the Economic Commission for Africa, and all relevant international and regional organizations, to continue to contribute to the effectiveness and reliability of the review process by cooperating in the collection of data and the evaluation of performance;

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[16] ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1, decision 7/COP.13, annex.

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly on an annual basis on the provision of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership.

113th plenary meeting
10 September 2018

United Nations A/RES/72/311

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 September 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 66 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.59/Rev.1 and A/72/L.59/Rev.1/Add.1)*]

72/311. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] its resolution 53/92 of 7 December 1998 and subsequent annual resolutions, including resolutions 67/293 of 24 July 2013, 68/278 of 16 June 2014, 69/291 of 19 June 2015, 70/292 of 7 July 2016 and 71/315 of 19 July 2017, as well as its resolutions 66/286 of 23 July 2012, 67/294 of 15 August 2013, 68/301 of 17 July 2014, 69/290 of 19 June 2015, 70/295 of 25 July 2016 and 71/320 of 8 September 2017 on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and 59/213 of 20 December 2004, 63/310 of 14 September 2009, 65/274 of 18 April 2011 and 67/302 of 16 September 2013 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1809 (2008) of 16 April 2008 on peace and security in Africa, 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009, 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015 on women and peace and security, 2250 (2015) of 9 December 2015 and 2419 (2018) of 6 June 2018 on youth, peace and security, 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009, 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011, 2068 (2012) of 19 September 2012 and 2225 (2015) of 18 June 2015 on children and armed conflict, 1625 (2005) of 14 September 2005 on strengthening the effectiveness of the role of

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

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the Council in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, 2195 (2014) of 19 December 2014 on threats to international peace and security, 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, 2033 (2012) of 12 January 2012 and 2320 (2016) of 18 November 2016, as well as the statements by the President of the Security Council of 16 December 2014[2] and 24 May 2016[3] on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security, and resolution 2167 (2014) of 28 July 2014 on United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4] through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting on 22 September 2008,[5]

Recalling the 2015 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Sustainable Development Goals and its outcome document,[6] and recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document entitled "The future we want",[7]

Recalling further its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012 establishing a monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development,

Reaffirming the political declaration on the peaceful resolution of conflicts in Africa adopted at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held on 25 April 2013,[8]

Reaffirming also the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063, as a strategic vision and an action plan for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa by 2063, and acknowledging the emphasis in Agenda 2063 on peace and security as critical enablers for sustainable development,

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and

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[2] S/PRST/2014/27; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2014–31 July 2015* (S/INF/70).

[3] S/PRST/2016/8.

[4] Resolution 60/1.

[5] Resolution 63/1.

[6] Resolution 70/1.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] Resolution 67/259.

complements it, and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Stressing that the responsibility for peace and security in Africa, including the capacity to address the root causes of conflict and to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner, lies primarily with African countries, while recognizing the need for the provision of support by the international community and the United Nations, taking into account the responsibilities of the Organization in this regard according to the Charter of the United Nations,

Underscoring the importance of continuing the efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to prevent and settle conflicts and promote human rights, democracy, the rule of law and constitutional order in Africa,

Recognizing, in particular, the capacity of the African Union and subregional organizations to address the causes of conflict in Africa,

Noting that, despite the positive trends and advances in obtaining durable peace in Africa, the conditions required for sustainable development have yet to be consolidated throughout the continent and that there is therefore an urgent need to continue to develop African human and institutional capacities, particularly in countries emerging from conflict,

Reaffirming the commitment to ensure that there shall be no tolerance for impunity for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, and that such violations shall be properly investigated and appropriately sanctioned, including by bringing the perpetrators of any crimes to justice, through national mechanisms or, where appropriate, regional or international mechanisms, in accordance with international law, and for that purpose encouraging States to strengthen national judicial systems and institutions,

Underscoring the importance of taking into account lessons learned from the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, during which Hutu and others who opposed the genocide were also killed,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the synergy between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda,

Recognizing the importance of aligning international support with Africa's own priorities, including but not limited to industrialization, youth employment, the eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequalities, aimed at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through action-oriented efforts,

Underlining the importance of enhancing national and regional initiatives, with international support, to address the negative implications of the illegal exploitation of natural resources in all its aspects for peace, security and development in Africa, and condemning the illicit trade in and proliferation of arms, especially small arms and light weapons,

Acknowledging that the achievement of durable peace and sustainable development in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations requires that national Governments and international partners continue to develop coordinated approaches tailored to the peacebuilding needs and challenges faced by those countries,

Emphasizing the importance of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, particularly through the prevention of conflict and addressing its root causes, strengthening the rule of law at the international and national levels, and promoting

sustained and sustainable economic growth, poverty eradication, social development, sustainable development, national reconciliation and unity, including through inclusive dialogue and mediation, access to justice and transitional justice, accountability, good governance, democracy, accountable institutions, gender equality and respect for, and protection of, human rights and fundamental freedoms, recognizing that effective peacebuilding must involve the entire United Nations system, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of joint analysis and effective strategic planning across the United Nations system in its long-term engagement in conflict-affected countries and, where appropriate, in cooperation and coordination with regional and subregional organizations,

Reaffirming, in this regard, the importance of the Peacebuilding Commission as a dedicated mechanism to address, within its existing mandate and in an integrated manner, the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for peace and sustainable development, taking into consideration national priorities and the principle of national ownership,

Reaffirming also the primary responsibility of national Governments and authorities in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for sustaining peace, and in this regard emphasizing that inclusivity is key to advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives in order to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account,

Welcoming the adoption of Security Council resolution 2413 (2018) and General Assembly resolution 72/276, on 26 April 2018, reaffirming Council resolution 2282 (2016) and Assembly resolution 70/262, both of 27 April 2016, on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, affirming the importance of sustaining peace, and recognizing the importance of their implementation for strengthening the Peacebuilding Commission and enabling it to realize its full potential, in accordance with Assembly resolution 60/180 and Council resolution 1645 (2005), both of 20 December 2005, and Assembly resolution 65/7 and Council resolution 1947 (2010), both of 29 October 2010, and in this regard taking note of the outcome report of the Cairo regional workshop held in November 2014, which provides perspectives from Africa on the need to consolidate the regional dimension in the activities of the Peacebuilding Commission in Africa,[9]

Encouraging the United Nations system, the African Union and subregional organizations to enhance their interaction with civil society, including women's and youth associations, academia and research institutions, on issues relevant to the promotion of peace, security and sustainable development in Africa, and welcoming the ongoing efforts in this regard, including by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[10]

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries, the African Union and subregional organizations in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and development, calls for intensified efforts and a coordinated approach among national Governments, the African Union, subregional organizations, the United Nations system and relevant partners in addressing those challenges, with a view to achieving further progress towards the goal of a conflict-free Africa, and in this regard recognizes the important role played by civil society organizations, including women's organizations;

[9] See A/69/654-S/2014/882.

[10] A/72/269-S/2017/780.

3. *Recalls* the adoption of the African Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023), which outlines key African flagship projects, fast-track programmes, priority areas, specific targets and African strategies and policy measures at all levels, and acknowledges the importance of supporting the implementation of the plan;

4. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the high-level events organized during the 2017 Africa Week on the theme "Supporting an integrated, prosperous, people-centred and peaceful Africa: towards the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", organized by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, in close partnership with the African Union Commission, the Planning and Coordination Agency of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the African Peer Review Mechanism, regional economic communities and the United Nations system;

5. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as well as the pledge to "end all wars in Africa by 2020" and "achieve the goal of a conflict-free Africa", as affirmed in the solemn declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union, expresses its readiness to contribute, and calls upon all, in particular relevant United Nations entities, to help to achieve this goal, including by considering defining a concrete five-year actionable plan in support of the goal of achieving a conflict-free Africa by 2020;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the strategic partnerships among the United Nations, the African Union and the regional economic communities, including in promoting an integrated and coherent implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[6] and the African Union Agenda 2063;

7. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union, in collaboration with regional economic communities and development partners, including the United Nations system, to develop an action plan towards implementing the decision of the 2013 solemn declaration that the continent would "silence the guns by 2020", and calls upon Member States and the United Nations system, as appropriate, to intensify their support and cooperation with African countries, the African Union and the African regional economic communities and relevant regional mechanisms towards the timely realization of the goal of silencing the guns by 2020;

8. *Takes note*, in this regard, of the high-level expert group meeting on the theme "Tackling the socioeconomic root causes of conflict towards achieving the goal of a conflict-free Africa in the context of the implementation of Africa's transformative Agenda 2063 and the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", held in Cairo on 16 and 17 November 2015;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of

the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held on 19 September 2016;[11]

10. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impact of climate change, desertification and land degradation in Africa, and highlights the importance of enhancing efforts to strengthen the implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing resilience in Africa, in particular the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and other initiatives launched under the leadership of the African Union Commission such as the Great Green Wall and the Land Policy Initiative, as well as initiatives launched by African countries such as the Adaptation of African Agriculture and the Security, Stability and Sustainability initiatives;

11. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to strengthen their peacekeeping capacity in peacekeeping operations on the continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in close coordination with the United Nations, through the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, as well as the ongoing efforts to develop a continental early warning system, strengthen the readiness of the African Standby Force and enhance mediation capacity and preventive diplomacy, including through the Panel of the Wise;

12. *Recognizes* the growing and emerging challenges and risks facing United Nations peacekeeping operations and political missions, and in this regard takes note of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations[12] and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "The future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations",[13] as well as the recommendations supported by Member States in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,[14] in particular on prevention, mediation and stronger global regional partnerships, including between the United Nations and the African Union, and encourages the Security Council, as appropriate, to consult with relevant regional organizations, particularly the African Union, especially if transitioning from a regional to a United Nations peacekeeping operation;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States to support the peace consolidation mechanisms and processes, including the African Peace and Security Architecture, the African Governance Architecture, the African Union Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Framework and the African Union Centre for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, in order to fully contribute to conflict prevention, peacemaking initiatives, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to assist African countries in post-conflict situations, at their request, in achieving a smooth transition from relief to development and to support relevant United Nations bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the international community and all partners to support the efforts of African countries to promote political, social and economic inclusion;

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[11] Resolution 71/1.

[12] See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

[13] A/70/357-S/2015/682.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/71/19).

16. *Stresses* the importance of creating an environment conducive to national reconciliation and social and economic recovery in countries emerging from conflict;

17. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support and fulfil its commitments to take further action in areas critical to Africa's economic and social development, in the spirit of win-win cooperation and to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity, and welcomes the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[15]

18. *Invites* the United Nations and the donor community to increase efforts to support ongoing regional efforts to build African mediation and negotiation capacity;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States to support the African Union in its effort to effectively integrate training in international humanitarian law and international human rights law, with particular emphasis on the rights of women and children, into the training of civilian, police and military personnel of national standby contingents at both the operational and tactical levels, as set out in article 13 of the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union;

20. *Recognizes* that international and regional efforts to prevent conflict and consolidate peace in Africa should be channelled towards the sustainable development of Africa and the human and institutional capacity-building of African countries and organizations, particularly in priority areas identified at the continental level;

21. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the joint visits of the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank to the countries of the Horn of Africa in October 2014, and to the Great Lakes region in May 2013, as well as the joint visit of the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the President of the World Bank, the President of the African Development Bank and the European Union Commissioner for Development to the Sahel region in November 2013, and calls for the fulfilment of all the pledges made to support peace and development in these regions;

22. *Also welcomes* the adoption of its resolution 71/254 of 23 December 2016 on the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide, as appropriate, predictable support for full, effective and efficient implementation of the Framework;

23. *Affirms* the importance of the role of the Interdepartmental Task Force on African Affairs and the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa in ensuring greater coherence and coordination of United Nations system support to Africa, including support to the African Union, particularly in the areas of conflict prevention and conflict resolution, human rights, governance and the rule of law, and post-conflict reconstruction and development;

24. *Stresses* the critical importance of a regional approach to conflict prevention, in particular with respect to cross-border issues such as transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration programmes, the prevention of illegal exploitation of natural resources and trafficking in high-value commodities and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and emphasizes in this regard the central role of the African Union and subregional organizations in addressing such issues;

[15] A/57/304, annex.

25. *Expresses grave concern* about the growing threat posed by terrorism to the peace, security and social and economic development of Africa, takes note of the communiqué of the Peace and Security Council summit on the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism in Africa, held in Nairobi on 2 September 2014, and encourages the United Nations to work with African countries, the African Union and the regional economic communities to support the development and implementation of regional and national counter-terrorism action plans;

26. *Calls upon* United Nations counter-terrorism entities, within existing mandates, and Member States to provide assistance and capacity-building towards Africa's efforts to counter violent extremism and terrorism;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the African Union and the international community to intensify their cooperation in the global fight against terrorism through the implementation of the relevant international and regional treaties and protocols and, in particular, the Plan of Action on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa of the African Union, as well as their support for the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, based in Algiers;

28. *Takes note* of the decision on the establishment of the African Union Special Fund on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held in Kigali on 17 and 18 July 2016, and encourages the United Nations system and Member States to support the efforts of the African Union in this regard;

29. *Welcomes* the initiative by the Secretary-General, and takes note of his Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism;[16]

30. *Notes with concern* that violence against women and children, including sexual violence, continues and may increase even as armed conflicts draw to an end, urges further progress in the implementation of policies and guidelines relating to the protection of and assistance to women and children in conflict and post-conflict situations in Africa, including more systematic monitoring and reporting, notes the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of relevant resolutions, and encourages the entities that compose United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in the implementation of her mandate, including in Africa;

31. *Also notes with concern* the tragic plight of children in conflict situations in Africa, in particular the phenomenon of the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflicts, as well as other violations and abuses committed against children, stresses the need for the protection of children in armed conflicts and for ensuring that the protection and rights of children in armed conflicts are integrated into all peace processes, also stresses the need for post-conflict counselling, reintegration, rehabilitation and education, with due regard for the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and encourages the relevant parts of the United Nations system to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in the implementation of her mandate, including in Africa;

32. *Stresses* the importance of addressing the socioeconomic dimension of youth unemployment, as well as facilitating the enhanced participation of youth in decision-making processes, with a view to addressing social, political and economic challenges;

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[16] See A/70/674.

33. *Calls for* the enhancement of the role of youth in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding, consistent with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018) on youth, peace and security;

34. *Welcomes* the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union to proclaim "Winning the fight against corruption: a sustainable path to Africa's transformation" as the theme for 2018;

35. *Calls for* the enhancement of the role of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding, consistent with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008) and 2242 (2015) on women and peace and security, and welcomes in this regard the report of the Secretary-General containing the results of the global study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000),[17] recognizes with appreciation all the work undertaken for the global study, and encourages follow-up of its recommendations;

36. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union to ensure the protection of the rights of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, recalls in this regard the adoption and entry into force of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, the African Union Gender Policy, the African Union five-year Gender, Peace and Security Programme, 2015–2020, the declaration by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union of 2015 as the Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Gender and Development, as well as the Framework of Cooperation concerning the Prevention and Response to Conflict-related Sexual Violence in Africa signed by the African Union Commission and the United Nations, stresses the significance of those instruments for all countries in Africa for strengthening the role of women in peace and conflict prevention on the continent, strongly urges the United Nations and all relevant parties to redouble their efforts and support in this regard, and recalls the decision of the African Union to declare 2016 as the African Year of Human Rights with Particular Focus on the Rights of Women;

37. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union to ensure the protection of children in conflict and post-conflict situations, recalls in this regard the adoption and entry into force of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, as well as the declaration signed on 17 September 2013 by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Peace and Security Department of the African Union Commission, in order to mainstream protection mechanisms in all peace and security activities of the African Union, in close partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund, and stresses the significance of those instruments for all countries in Africa in protecting children affected by armed conflicts on the continent;

38. *Takes note* of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which entered into force on 6 December 2012, and the Kampala Declaration on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, adopted on 23 October 2009;

39. *Calls for* the safeguarding of the principle of refugee protection in Africa and the resolution of the plight of refugees, including through support for efforts aimed at addressing the causes of refugee movement and bringing about the voluntary, dignified, safe and sustainable return and reintegration of those populations, and calls upon the international community, including Member States, the Office of the United

[17] S/2015/716.

Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

40. *Recognizes* the important contribution of the African Peer Review Mechanism since its inception in improving governance and supporting socioeconomic development in African countries;

41. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its summit in January 2017 on the revitalization of the African Peer Review Mechanism, expanding the monitoring and evaluation mandate of the Mechanism, and invites the United Nations system and Member States to provide voluntary substantial financial and capacity-building support to the Mechanism to advance its activities;

42. *Welcomes* African-led initiatives to strengthen political, economic and corporate governance, such as the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance and the African Peer Review Mechanism, encourages more African countries to participate in this process, and calls upon the United Nations system and Member States to assist African countries and regional and subregional organizations, upon their request, in their ongoing efforts to promote democracy, constitutional order and the rule of law, to enhance good governance and to continue to fight against impunity, as well as in the holding of free, fair, inclusive, peaceful and transparent elections;

43. *Recognizes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in ensuring that national ownership of the peacebuilding process in conflict-affected countries is observed and that nationally identified priorities are at the core of international and regional efforts in peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the countries under consideration, notes the important steps taken by the Commission in engaging with a broad range of country and regional situations, including Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Sahel and the Great Lakes, and calls for sustained regional and international commitment to the implementation of nationally identified peacebuilding priorities;

44. *Also recognizes* the progress made by the Peacebuilding Commission in enhancing its relationship with regional and subregional organizations in Africa, in particular the African Union, including among others through visits of the Chair of the Commission to the headquarters of the African Union in 2016 and 2017 and through a joint event of the Commission and the Peace and Security Council held on 18 July 2018, and in this regard welcomes the signing of a memorandum of understanding on peacebuilding between the Peacebuilding Support Office and the African Union Commission on 18 September 2017 with a view to strengthening the collaboration between the United Nations and the African Union to provide a framework and strengthen cooperation in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts in Africa;

45. *Further recognizes* the profound socioeconomic impact of diseases, inter alia, the Ebola virus disease, in Central and West Africa, including on the capacity to provide basic services and economic activities, expresses deep concern about the potential reversal, due to the Ebola outbreak, of the gains made by the affected countries in development, peacebuilding, political stability and the reconstruction of socioeconomic infrastructure in recent years, and encourages effective measures and targeted investments to overcome these difficulties and to support recovery priorities, including the importance of maintaining strong

surveillance and response systems and building strong and resilient national health systems, particularly in the most affected countries, in line with the outcome of the International Ebola Recovery Conference, held in New York on 10 July 2015 and the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted by the World Health Assembly;[18]

46. *Acknowledges* the particular challenges infectious disease outbreaks pose in conflict-affected areas and their effect on health crisis management, as health systems in areas of conflict are often compromised and ill-equipped to deal with the threat posed by infectious disease outbreaks, and strongly condemns violence attacks and threats directed against medical personnel and facilities, which have long-term consequences for the civilian population and the health-care systems of the countries concerned, as well as for the neighbouring regions, and have a negative impact on sustainable development;

47. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites Member States, to assist African countries emerging from conflict, upon their request as appropriate, in their efforts to build national capacities, including through national security sector reform strategies, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, including children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups, the provision for the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees, the launch of income-generation activities, particularly for youth and women, and the delivery of basic public services;

48. *Urges* continued support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and hunger, job creation and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

49. *Recognizes* the need for African countries to make continued efforts to create enabling environments for inclusive growth in support of sustainable development and for the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support those development efforts by African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

50. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States, bilateral and multilateral partners and new partners to deliver expeditiously on commitments and to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of the political declaration on Africa's development needs,[5] as well as the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

51. *Encourages* African Governments to strengthen structures and policies in order to create an environment conducive to the promotion of inclusive economic growth and to attracting foreign direct investment, by, inter alia, continuing to achieve a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate, with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights, and to promote socioeconomic development and social justice, calls upon African Member States and regional and subregional organizations to assist the African countries concerned, at their request, by enhancing their capacity to devise and improve their national natural resources and public revenue management structures, and in this regard invites the international community to assist in that process by providing adequate financial and technical assistance and by renewing its commitment to efforts aimed at combating

[18] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of those countries, in conformity with international law;

52. *Recalls* relevant resolutions on the strengthening of cooperation and communication between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations or arrangements, and encourages coordination and cooperation between the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations and regional economic communities in advocacy and in the mobilization of the support of the international community for African countries and towards the priorities of their continental and regional institutions;

53. *Welcomes* the convening of the first United Nations-African Union annual conference at the level of the Secretary General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission at United Nations Headquarters on 19 April 2017 and the signing of the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, and the signing of the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 27 January 2018, and underlines the importance of enhancing the partnership between the two organizations in all areas of peace, security and sustainable development;

54. *Emphasizes* the importance of deepening cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, based on consultations, regular meetings at all levels, shared analysis, comparative advantages and division of labour to better address today's challenges, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations;

55. *Notes* the completion of the review of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1998 report of the Secretary-General,[19] and requests the Secretary-General to develop, in consultation with relevant partners, policy proposals on issues identified in his report, including enhancing cooperation among the United Nations, the African Union and subregional organizations, particularly in conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, and promoting socioeconomic development, good governance, the rule of law and human rights;

56. *Takes note* of the recommendations presented by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on possible ways to strengthen the interdepartmental task force on African affairs,[20] including through enhancing joint advocacy for international support to Africa, assisting in the mobilization of support for the implementation of relevant programmes and initiatives in Africa and championing approaches and solutions that take into account the enabling environment that peace and security provide for development, and reaffirms the need to ensure further coherence and an integrated approach for United Nations support to Africa, including in following up on the implementation of all global summit and conference outcomes related to Africa;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and report to the General Assembly on an annual basis on persistent and emerging challenges to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, including the root causes of conflict and conditions to promote sustainable development, as well as on the approach and support of the United Nations system.

113th plenary meeting
10 September 2018

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[19] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[20] See A/67/205/Add.1-S/2012/715/Add.1.

United Nations A/RES/72/312

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 September 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 131

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.69 and A/72/L.69/Add.1)*]

72/312. United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Recalling also its resolutions 71/278 of 10 March 2017 on United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse, 72/304 of 13 July 2018 on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, 71/297 of 30 June 2017 on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and 72/112 of 7 December 2017 on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission, and taking note of Security Council resolutions 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015 and 2272 (2016) of 11 March 2016,

1. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse throughout the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy", and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, pursuant to resolution 57/306 of 15 April 2003, on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, including on progress made in implementing a zero-tolerance policy within the United Nations system, for consideration by the General Assembly, in line with existing mandates and procedures.

115th plenary meeting
13 September 2018

[1] A/72/751 and A/72/751/Corr.1.

18-15337 (E) 210918

Please recycle

United Nations A/RES/72/313

General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 September 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 121

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 September 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/896)*]

72/313. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[1]

Acknowledging that resolution 71/323 constitutes an important contribution to the strengthening of the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly as established by the Charter of the United Nations,

Underlining the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the need to align the agenda of the General Assembly in full support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2]

Welcoming the calls to increase the efficiency of the work of the General Assembly through streamlining its agenda, including by elimination of duplication and overlap of agenda items,

Recognizing the role of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security, in accordance with the Charter, and acknowledging its role and authority, established in Article 10 of the Charter, to make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both, on questions or matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided in Article 12 thereof,

[1] Resolutions 46/77, 47/233, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163, 55/14, 55/285, 56/509, 57/300, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292, 62/276, 63/309, 64/301, 65/315, 66/294, 67/297, 68/307, 69/321 and 70/305.

[2] Resolution 70/1.

18-15395 (E) 240918

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Stressing the role of the General Assembly in taking forward the major reforms of the Organization, including reforms proposed by the Secretary-General, as contained in resolutions 72/199 of 20 December 2017, 72/266 A of 24 December 2017 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018, adopted during its seventy-second session,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Reaffirming also the authority and increasing role of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter,

Mindful of the need to provide all Permanent Missions, regardless of their size and capacities, with ample opportunity to participate in the work of the General Assembly and its Main Committees,

Mindful that we have yet to achieve full gender and geographical balance within the United Nations, while encouraging further intergovernmental efforts in this regard, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men from all regional groups in their access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to secure the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General in achieving gender parity at senior management level, in particular the initiation of the system-wide strategy on gender parity,

Recalling the conclusion of the process of selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, which was characterized by an enhanced degree of transparency, accountability and inclusivity, in accordance with resolutions 69/321 of 11 September 2015 and 70/305 of 13 September 2016,

Recalling also the fact that women constituted more than half of all of the candidates for Secretary-General presented by Member States in accordance with resolution 69/321, and emphasizing the need to strive for gender balance in the selection of other executive heads,

Recalling further that the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General should be considered in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, and taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions, and recalling the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity,

Affirming that the work of the President of the General Assembly and of the Office of the President of the General Assembly shall be guided by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the principles of universality, objectivity, non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation,

Welcoming the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its seventy-second session,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly and the updated inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;[3]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, including an

[3] A/72/896.

overview of major outcomes achieved under this agenda item, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its seventy-third session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-third session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the seventy-second session and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the seventy-third session of the Assembly, including the separate indication of relevant provisions that were not implemented, with reasons therefor;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-third session;

Role and authority of the General Assembly

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and underlines the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Recalls* the practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and invites the Secretary-General to continue this practice;

[4] A/72/736.

10. *Welcomes* the holding of an interactive and comprehensive dialogue between the Permanent Missions and the Secretariat on 5 April 2018, as mandated in resolution 71/323, aimed at improving the work of the Secretariat in its interaction with the Permanent Missions, and requests the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group to continue to convene the interactive dialogue within the framework of the Ad Hoc Working Group, aimed at:

(a) Identifying issues in the interaction of the Secretariat with the Permanent Missions;

(b) Identifying solutions in better meeting the needs and requirements of the Permanent Missions regarding standard operating procedures used at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

11. *Reiterates* its decision to hold thematic dialogues periodically during the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group and to review this arrangement at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly;

12. *Invites* Member States to submit, through the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group, and prior to the holding of the interactive and comprehensive dialogue, specific issues on which action by the Secretariat might be needed, and requests the Secretariat to provide comprehensive answers within a reasonable amount of time on the possible actions, and impediments, if any, to solve the issues raised;

13. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the active participation by the Secretariat during the seventy-second session, and in particular notes with appreciation the establishment of a "one stop shop" as a single entry point for requesting meetings services, while encouraging the Secretariat to make similar arrangements for other services provided;

14. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the frequency and preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and in this context welcomes the initiative of the President of the Assembly at its seventy-second session to select "Focusing on people: striving for peace and a decent life for all on a sustainable planet" as the theme of the general debate;

15. *Recommends*, in this regard, unless decided otherwise, that no other agenda items should be opened during the dates allocated for the general debate;

16. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to limit high-level meetings to current issues of critical importance to the international community, with the interest of the wider membership in mind and with a focus on the most vulnerable, while encouraging the allocation of events of a strictly sectoral or thematic nature to the six Main Committees;

17. *Commends* improvements in the quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, including as presented in the note by the President of the Security Council,[5] and welcomes the willingness of the Council to continue to consider other suggestions concerning improvements to the annual report;

[5] S/2017/507.

18. *Requests* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of the Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat;

Working methods

20. *Reaffirms* existing relevant mandates related to the improvement of the working methods of the Main Committees, including section C of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, paragraphs 7 to 13 of resolution 59/313 of 12 September 2005, cluster III of the annex to resolution 60/286 of 8 September 2006 and resolution 69/321, in particular paragraphs 16 and 17 thereof;

21. *Emphasizes* that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is interlinked with the strengthening of the Main Committees;

22. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-third session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

23. *Requests* the continuation of the established practice of holding handover meetings of the outgoing and incoming bureaux to exchange views on outcomes and the upcoming agenda, and of presenting a report by the Chairs of the Main Committees to their successors on best practices and lessons learned;

24. *Requests* the President-elect of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of meeting informally with the incoming members of the General Committee before the beginning of the regular session in order to review the proposed programme of work of the Main Committees, with a view to increasing their efficiency, improving complementarity and avoiding overlap of meetings of the Main Committees to the extent possible, in order to allow for wider participation by Member States;

25. *Calls for* the continuation of the practice of periodical meetings between the six Chairs of the Main Committees during the session of the General Assembly to share best practices and increase the coherence and complementarity of the work of the Main Committees;

26. *Welcomes* efforts to afford elected members of the Security Council appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure, and also welcomes the note by the President of the Security Council in which the elected Council members are invited to observe some of its meetings and activities as from 1 October immediately preceding their term of membership;[5]

27. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventy-third session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

28. *Recalls* the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly, as adopted in its resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994;

29. *Also recalls* the need to enhance synergies and coherence and reduce overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] and calls for the continuation of such efforts during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

30. *Requests* the General Committee, while exercising its functions under rule 40 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to pay special attention to reduction of such overlap;

31. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session to identify proposals, through consultations with all Member States and the President of the Economic and Social Council, as well as through the convening of the General Committee, aimed at addressing gaps and duplication in the agenda of the Assembly as they relate to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the report on the strategic alignment of future sessions of the Assembly and other relevant inputs, for the consideration of Member States during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

32. *Encourages* Member States, in proposing and voting for candidates to subsidiary organs of the General Assembly, to seek to promote gender balance in all such bodies;

33. *Recalls* rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates;

34. *Also recalls* rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and calls for strict adherence by each speaker to the time limits in the Assembly, where applicable, bearing in mind that all speakers shall get the same opportunity to deliver their statements within the allocated time limit, as set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

35. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Chairs of meetings of the General Assembly and United Nations conferences, especially when there is very limited time available for debate, to consider recommending the "all protocol observed" principle, whereby participants are encouraged to refrain from listing standard protocol expressions during their statements;

36. *Requests* the Secretariat to ensure the availability through the eDelegate portal of provisional lists of speakers at United Nations meetings and conferences not later than by the end of the business day preceding the relevant meeting or conference;

37. *Recommends* that speakers should be mindful of the speed of statement delivery, bearing in mind the need for accuracy of interpretation;

38. *Urges* all presiding officers and Member States to strictly adhere to the scheduled starting time of meetings of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies;

39. *Calls upon* all officers chairing or facilitating intergovernmental processes to seek to conduct informal negotiations during regular working hours, in order to allow for the active and constructive participation of all Permanent Missions in the work of the United Nations;

40. *Decides* to continue to consider ways to rationalize the number of side events held during the high-level segment of the general debate, bearing in mind the need to enhance its decorum and significance, and encourages the scheduling of side events at United Nations Headquarters outside of the hours when the general debate is being held;

41. *Takes note* of the possibility for Member States to publish their side events under a dedicated section of the digital version of the *Journal of the United Nations*;

42. *Decides* that, in addition to the general debate and the thematic meetings, the interactive and comprehensive dialogue between the Permanent Missions and the Secretariat held within the Ad Hoc Working Group, as outlined in paragraph 10 of resolution 71/323, shall be webcast;

43. *Recalls* its resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963, 2837 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 45/45 of 28 November 1990, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 58/126 of 19 December 2003 and 58/316, and reiterates its call to the President of the General Assembly to continue to make full use of the General Committee throughout the session, with a view to reviewing the programme of work of the Assembly and its Main Committees, in line with rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

44. *Reiterates its invitation* to the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, as well as to the Secretary-General, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity, effectiveness and distribution throughout the session, and to consider ways to decrease the number of high-level events held during the general debate;

45. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in order to enhance transparency, to continue to attach the list of speakers at high-level thematic debates organized by the President to the summary of those events;

46. *Encourages* the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the possible alternative dates for the beginning of the regular session of the Assembly[6] and the financial and logistical implications thereof, as well as on potential benefits and shortcomings of various options, based on the premise that any such change will not have an effect on the beginning of the general debate in September;[7]

48. *Decides* to establish the pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming 10 sessions of the General Assembly, namely from the seventy-fourth to the eighty-third session, as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

49. *Also decides* to prepare arrangements concerning the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees for the following sessions no later than at its eighty-second session;

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[6] As contained in rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

[7] The general debate shall begin on the Tuesday of the fourth week in September, counting from the first week that contains at least one working day, and shall be held without interruption over a period of nine working days.

50. *Continues to encourage* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of the Chairs and bureau members of the Main Committees as well as the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly, where applicable;

51. *Decides* to continue to consider, within the Ad Hoc Working Group, the potential concept and scope of guidelines on how to conduct the election campaigns by Member States, with a view to improving the standards of transparency and equity;

52. *Welcomes* the efficient implementation of paragraphs 47 and 48 of resolution 71/323 relating to the conduct of elections in the General Assembly and the Main Committees;

53. *Notes* the practice implemented during the secret vote-counting procedure, whereby no use of mobile phones or other electronic communication devices is permitted in the room where counting is being conducted, thus ensuring the confidentiality of elections and the integrity of secret ballots, and requests the continuation of this practice;

54. *Encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs and reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such services, under eDelegate, including the continuation of the practice of making available all official correspondence of the United Nations addressed to the Member States;

55. *Takes note* of the introduction of real-time updates with respect to the cancellation and postponement of meetings, and requests the continuation of this practice with further improvements, in particular with the introduction of the possibility of subscribing to relevant agenda items with automatic notifications to subscribers on their status;

56. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism remains a core value of the Organization, and reaffirms the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages in the United Nations, including on official websites;

57. *Welcomes* the publishing of electronic live versions of the Blue Book, the White Pages and the Yellow Pages;

58. *Takes note with appreciation* of the changes to the format, production and editing of the *Journal of the United Nations*, and requests the Secretariat to continue the improvement of the *Journal* in accordance with requirements provided in paragraph 51 of resolution 71/323 and to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-third session on the outcomes of that improvement;

59. *Affirms* the principle that the *Journal* shall provide an overview of all meetings taking place at the United Nations, and requests that meetings be listed under the established categories in contiguous order and that all meetings organized by States be included, provided that information has been submitted to the *Journal* unit in due time, and clarifies that the existence of web pages for sessions of bodies should not preclude the announcement of side events;

60. *Calls upon* all relevant intergovernmental bodies to continue to review the need for and content of the *Journal* summaries of their meetings and other announcements, and to take the steps necessary with a view to ensuring a more streamlined format for the *Journal of the United Nations*;

61. *Reiterates* the need to produce the *Journal* in all six official languages in strict compliance with rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

62. *Emphasizes* the importance of the extension of the information in the *Journal of the United Nations* published in the six official languages, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group, on a yearly basis, on the progress achieved in this regard, and requests the Secretariat to continue to explore cost-neutral options to that effect;

63. *Takes note* of the concerns raised by multiple Member States regarding the prohibitive cost of the use of the Delegates' Dining Room and other venues at the United Nations by delegations for holding diplomatic events, and requests the Secretary-General to provide, during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, innovative proposals on solutions for the existing situation, including the possibility of introducing certain elements in future contracts with the vendor;

64. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide, in an electronic version only, a list containing the names of the President and the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly and officers of the Main Committees, as well as members of the Security Council, members of the Economic and Social Council and Member States and observers of the United Nations;

Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

65. *Encourages* future Presidents of the General Assembly to actively contribute to the implementation of provisions guiding the selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, as contained in all relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 69/321 and 70/305;

66. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and emphasizes in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General is guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on the best practices and the participation of all Member States;

67. *Stresses*, in particular, the need to ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the post of Secretary-General, who embodies the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and who demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills;

68. *Also stresses* that, in the course of the identification and appointment of the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General, due regard shall continue to be given to regional rotation and to gender balance;

69. *Reaffirms its commitment* to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its thorough consideration of the issues under the third thematic cluster of the Working Group, on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, including the examination of innovative ways to improve the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General and other executive heads in all its aspects, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11 (I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013, 68/307 of 10 September 2014,

69/321, 70/305 and 71/323, reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging existing relevant practices of the Assembly;

70. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the implementation by the Assembly of these resolutions;

71. *Recalls* that informal dialogues and meetings with candidates for the post of Secretary-General, as provided for in paragraph 42 of its resolution 69/321, are an important part of the selection and appointment process, and encourages the President of the General Assembly to further improve, in close consultation with Member States, the modalities of these dialogues in order to increase their efficiency and interactivity with Member States;

72. *Recognizes* the possibility of providing the process of selection and appointment of the Secretary-General with notional timelines based on its resolution 69/321 and other relevant resolutions;

73. *Welcomes* the collaboration between the General Assembly and the Security Council in launching the process and circulating information on the nominated candidates during the most recent selection of the Secretary-General, and encourages improvement in the interaction between the Council and the Assembly in all stages of the process to further enhance transparency;

74. *Decides* to review the oath of office of the Secretary-General during its seventy-third session;

75. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General towards achieving equal and fair distribution in terms of the gender and geographical balance of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization, while securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter and its resolutions 46/232 of 2 March 1992, 51/241, and 71/263 of 23 December 2016, commends in particular the fact that gender parity was achieved in the Senior Management Group, and requests that further effective measures be taken in this regard;

76. *Takes note* of the call by the Secretariat to all Member States encouraging the nomination of candidates to supplement the Secretary-General's search to ensure a wide pool of candidates for positions at the senior level;

77. *Recalls* its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2 thereof, in which it notes that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, stresses that the process of appointments to senior posts by the Secretary-General within the Organization should be inclusive and transparent, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter, and in this context calls upon the Secretary-General to announce such vacancies well in advance;

78. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender balance and as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard recalls its resolutions 46/232 and 51/241, adopted without a vote, which contain the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants and that, as a general rule, there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the United Nations system by nationals of any State or group of States;

79. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General continue his ongoing efforts to ensure the attainment of equitable geographical distribution and gender balance in the Secretariat, while recalling its resolution 71/263, in particular the paragraphs thereof related to equitable geographical distribution and gender balance;

80. *Requests* the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to continue with the practice of providing a briefing to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization, and takes note of the practice of distributing said briefing to the Member States;

81. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes to maintain updated information regarding the past and present executive heads on their official websites in order to strengthen transparency, as well as accessibility of the historical record;

82. *Requests* the Secretariat to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-third session on the issue of candidacies of senior United Nations officials currently holding office, in order to enhance transparency and equity of the appointment process;

Strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

83. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session for strengthening the transparency and inclusivity of his Office, including through continuing the practices outlined in paragraph 66 of resolution 71/323, and for voluntarily presenting the summary of his personal financial disclosure, and requests future Presidents of the Assembly to follow these good practices;

84. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President and its relationship with the Secretariat and the measures already taken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and notes the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to the Office of the President;

85. *Encourages* the President of the General Assembly to continue the practice of periodically briefing Member States on his or her activities, including official travel;

86. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing presidencies of each session of the Assembly;

87. *Stresses* the importance of continuing with the practice of providing a handover report from the President of the General Assembly to their successors and all Member States, as well as of further efforts to improve archiving and record-keeping by the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

88. *Strongly welcomes* the organization of informal dialogues with candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, as well as the circulation of vision statements, as outlined in paragraph 73 of resolution 71/323;

89. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Working Group to establish, in close consultation with the President of the General Assembly, the guidelines for the informal interactive dialogue with candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, including the question of participants, duration and format;

90. *Highly commends* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session for introducing the morning dialogues, envisaged as informal discussions among Permanent Representatives on the substantive and practical aspects of work of the Assembly, and strongly encourages the continuation of the valuable practice of regular meetings between the President and the Permanent Representatives;

91. *Invites* the Presidents of the General Assembly to maintain the practice of holding monthly meetings with the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council in order to ensure cooperation, coordination and exchange of information on cross-cutting issues related to the work of the Organization;

92. *Expresses deep satisfaction* that at the seventy-third session, and for the fourth time in its history, the General Assembly will have a female President, in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of future Presidents of the General Assembly, and encourages Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly, both in terms of numbers and level of responsibility, without prejudice to professional qualifications of potential candidates;

93. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on the sources of funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

94. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General and its invitation to the heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes, upon request by the President of the General Assembly, to consider seconding staff to work in the Office of the President of the General Assembly on a more systematic basis;

95. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the General Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, as well as to continue discussions within the Ad Hoc Working Group on further steps to strengthen the Office;

96. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2020, proposals to review the budget allocation of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, in accordance with existing procedures, including rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, and taking into account the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the issue, and in this connection looks forward to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventy-fourth session;

97. *Takes note* of the practice of making non-staff programme budget resources available to Presidents of the General Assembly from the date of their election;

98. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the trust fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation the contributions that have been made to the fund, and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the fund and to allow for unspent contributions from previous sessions to be made available for succeeding terms;

99. *Welcomes* the continuation of the practice of vetting all contributions from sources other than Member States through the Ethics Office, and urges adherence to this practice;

100. *Reiterates its call for* non-in-kind contributions to be channelled through the trust fund, and welcomes steps taken in this regard by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

101. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-third session of the Assembly on the implementation of all mandates accorded to her under the present resolution and previous relevant resolutions.

116th plenary meeting
17 September 2018

Annex

Pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly

Session	*First Committee*	*Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)*	*Second Committee*	*Third Committee*	*Fifth Committee*	*Sixth Committee*
Seventy-fourth	Latin American and Caribbean States	Asia-Pacific States	African States	Western European and other States	Asia-Pacific States	Eastern European States
Seventy-fifth	Western European and other States	African States	Asia-Pacific States	Eastern European States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Latin American and Caribbean States
Seventy-sixth	African States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	African States	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States
Seventy-seventh	Asia-Pacific States	Asia-Pacific States	Eastern European States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	African States
Seventy-eighth	Eastern European States	African States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	African States	Asia-Pacific States
Seventy-ninth	Latin American and Caribbean States	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States	African States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States
Eightieth	Western European and other States	Latin American and Caribbean States	African States	Asia-Pacific States	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States
Eighty-first	Asia-Pacific States	African States	Eastern European States	Western European and other States	African States	Latin American and Caribbean States
Eighty-second	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States	Asia-Pacific States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	African States
Eighty-third	African States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States	Western European and other States